I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope and resset to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22375-1450, on the gate below:

March 29, 2004 Date

David L. Parker

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Yang, et al.

Serial No.: 09/599,152

Filed: June 21, 2000

For: ETHYLENEDICYSTEINE (EC)-DRUG CONJUGATES, COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR TISSUE SPECIFIC

DISEASE IMAGING

Group Art Unit: 1619

Examiner: Jones, D.

Atty. Dkt. No.: UTXC:664

I. AMENDMENT; AND II. RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL ACTION DATED SEPTEMBER 29, 2003

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated September 29, 2003. The three month date for response was December 29, 2003. A request for a three-month extension of time is filed herewith, along with the required fee. The three-month extension will bring the due date to March 29, 2004, which is within the six-month statutory period. Should such request or fee be deficient or absent, consider this paragraph such a request and authorization to withdraw the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21, if required for any reason, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Account No.: 50-1212/UTSC:664